

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 208043

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 208043

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: EWWT, OVIP (BENTLEY, HELEN D.)

SUBJECT: SHIPPING TALKS

REF: TOKYO 12220 & PREVIOUS

PASS RAYMOND J. WALDMANN

DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED REPORT FMC CHAIRMAN BENTLEY, WHO IS NOW IN CALIFORNIA ENROUTE TO JAPAN, MAY BE CONTEMPLATING AN EARLIER DEPARTURE FROM TOKYO AND NOT ATTENDING ALL SESSIONS OF SHIPPING TALKS. IF REPORT PROVES TO BE CORRECT, EMBASSY REQUESTED TO CONSIDER EFFORTS TO PRECLUDE THIS EVENTUALITY. CONSIDERING PAST POSTPONEMENTS AND RECENT SCHEDULE CHANGES AS WELL AS PRESENT PROGRAM, SUCH ACTION AT THIS LATE DATE MIGHT NOT ONLY BE INTERPRETED AS A SLIGHT BY GOJ HOSTS, BUT ALSO MIGHT HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON THE TENOR OF THE MARITIME DISCUSSIONS. MOREOVER, IN LIGHT OF WALDMANN'S OWN SCHEDULE PROBLEMS AND HIS POSSIBLE ABSENCE FROM DISCUSSIONS, DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S AND WALDMANN'S VIEWS ON DEALING WITH THIS UNCERTAIN SITUATION. KISSINGER

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